

October 7, 2015

Governor Larry Hogan
State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor Hogan,

On behalf of the City Council and citizens of Greenbelt, I am writing in support of increased funding for Maryland Youth Service Bureaus for Fiscal Year 2017. The City of Greenbelt has been a funding partner with the State for over 40 years. We ask that you consider the following facts regarding the cost-effective and outcome driven results of the Youth Services Bureaus:

- Youth Service Bureaus are cost effective. They offer financial and social return by reducing youth adjudication rates and costly interventions, including confinement in juvenile correctional facilities.
- ***Youth Service Bureaus have proven outcomes: 95% of the young people they serve in formal counseling do not enter the juvenile justice system 2 years after completing services.***
- Youth Service Bureaus generate over \$11 million additional dollars for prevention efforts from other state funds, county and municipal governments, federal and private grants, fees and donations to match the approximate \$1.8 million designated state funds
- Youth Services Bureaus have been serving Maryland's youth and their families since their establishment in 1971 and service over 4,000 children and their families annually.
- Youth Service Bureaus benefit entire communities through the increased revenues of productive youth and families.
- Maryland's 18 Youth Services Bureaus provide effective preventive juvenile delinquency and family disruption services based on best-practices aimed at increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors for juveniles and their families.

We strongly support the work of Maryland's Youth Service Bureaus and recognize the important role they play in the lives of the youth and families they serve every year. Greenbelt CARES Youth Service Bureau serves youth and families demonstrating a variety of at-risk behaviors known to lead to involvement in Juvenile Services, Social Services, and Special Education systems. Youth Services provide a vital service in Maryland and we ask that the Governor's Office increase funding for these services in Fiscal Year 2017 and subsequent years.

Sincerely,

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor

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cc: The Honorable Paul Pinsky
| The Honorable Tawanna Gaines
The Honorable Anne Healey
The Honorable Alonzo Washington
Greenbelt City Council
Michael P. McClaughlin, City Manager
Liz Park, Director, CARES Youth & Family Services Bureau
Linda Bryan, MAYSB President

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